

CORRECT AVERAGES
OF MAJOR LEAGUESSherwood Magee Will Be Eligible to Play
Against Cardinals Next Wednesday.

Philadelphia fans are happy to-day because of the announcement by President Lynch of the National League that he has reinstated Outfielder Sherwood Magee of the Phillies, whom he had previously suspended for a year for assaulting Umpire Finneran at a game between the Quakers and the Cardinals at Philadelphia July 10. Magee is only on probation, for if he doesn't report himself on the ball field in the most approved of fashions he will have to serve out the sentence that was imposed on him. It is a strange thing that the crack player will be able to come back to the diamond on next Wednesday, and on that date his club will be playing the same team at home that opposed them when he made his uncalculated attack on the umpire. The Cardinals will be the first team to visit Slowtown, and on that occasion the Phillies will be immeasurably strengthened with Magee back in the lineup. With Titus, Farkner and Magee in the outer works they have a combination second to none in the business. Magee is thinking of wearing a gag for the rest of the season.

MAJOR LEAGUE RECORDS

Compiled by Expert George L. Moreland.

National League Batting Average.
Records of all players, batting .350 or better, who have played in ten or more games up to and including those played on Wednesday, Aug. 9:

Player	Club	A.	B.	R.	H.	A.
Wagner, Pittsburgh		100	204	121	477	.404
Ferry, Pittsburgh		100	204	121	477	.404
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"Ty" Cobb Tells Own Story of His Baseball Ups and Downs;
Augusta Wanted to Sell Him for \$50, but Detroit Paid \$75

Star of the Diamond Gave Up University Career to Become Professional Ballplayer and Now Is Independently Rich—Explains that He Isn't Swelled-Headed and Never Spiked a Player Intentionally.

BY BOZEMAN BULGER.

THE catcher of the "first nine" in Royston, Ga., was a Freeman, and George Leidy, an old-time ballplayer, who came that way a few months later, knew how to fill a youngster full of ambition. To these two facts Tyrus Cobb, the baseball marvel of the decade, attributes his wonderful success.

"I am still ignorant of the inside stuff that enabled Bob McCreary, the Freeman, to work such wonders with my father," explains the Georgia peach. "But you can bet your life that just as soon as I was twenty-one years old I immediately made application to join the lodge and was accepted." To this day Tyrus Cobb is a member of the Royston lodge.

"Understand me," laughed Cobb. "I don't mean to say that Freeman helped me hit the ball and run bases, but it certainly helped me get the chance."

Tyrus Cobb is now but twenty-four years old and he has been playing baseball just seven years, which includes his experience in the minor leagues. In that time he has flashed across the baseball sky like a meteor, and will probably go down in history as the greatest player the diamond has ever known. In those few years Cobb has become independently wealthy. He is now the owner of a flock of automobiles, is a director in a bank, has made a small fortune in the cotton market and has several more years on the diamond at a princely salary.

Young Ty Cobb did not begin life as a poor boy and he did not have to face the usual vicissitudes that block the path of the youngster who starts out on the town lots. But there are worse obstacles than being poor, and it seems that every one of these were thrown in the way of young Cobb during his struggles to get a start.

Ty Cobb is the son of the late William H. Cobb, who was at one time a professor in mathematics, later a State Senator in Georgia and also the editor of the Royston Record, a Democratic newspaper. There was no sporting page in that paper and the baseball idea never made much of a hit with the senior Cobb.

As a little boy in Royston, Ga., young Cobb discovered that he was very fast on his feet, and in the town races he always won. He was also a natural born ballplayer, and he attracted attention the minute that he began playing shortstop for the "second nine" in his home town. He was too small and slight to get a regular place on the "first nine," but when the two teams got together for practice young Tyrus always made the older boys hustle. One day there was a game to be played at Elberton, Ga., which is in the heart of the peach country from which come the famous "Elbertons." The center fielder on the local team had to go out to town to buy some cattle, and as his services were thereby lost to the first nine it became necessary to take young Cobb along as a last resort. Senator Cobb protested vigorously at the idea of his son going on a trip with a ball club, but Robert McCreary, manager of the first nine and catcher, went to the elder Cobb and persuaded him to let the youngster go "just this one time." On the promise that McCreary, a brother Mason, would look after the welfare and conduct of young Tyrus, the Senator finally gave his consent. That gave Cobb his first real start. In that game the slim-legged Tyrus proved a "beast" of the first order. He walked out one single after another, and finally landed on that won the game and made him the boy hero of his town.

When Cobb arrived at Augusta he was paid \$90 a month. The manager, Con Strouther, released him at the end of the week. "It has often been said that Con Strouther gave me my start," explains Cobb, "but that is not true. As a matter of fact he held me back more than he helped me. George Leidy is the man who really started me on the right idea."

As soon as Cobb got his notice of release he was determined not to quit, and he called his father on the long-distance phone, telling him of an offer he had to make to the team at Anniston, Ala. His father advised him to go ahead and show them that he could make good. The old gentleman had his Irish up by this time and was heart and soul with his boy in his desire to make good. At Anniston Cobb did well, but after two weeks there he heard that Manager Strouther had been let for me Augusta and that Andy Roth had charge of the team and wanted him back. He went back.

MANAGER WANTS TO SELL HIM FOR \$50.
"When I got back to Augusta," says Cobb, "Manager Roth evidently did not realize what could be done with my natural speed. He was continually nagging at me for trying to steal bases. He wouldn't allow me to take any chances at all. I became discouraged and one day I went to the manager and told him I was trying to sell me for \$50. My friends got on to this, however, and worked a trick on the manager. They would all go to the phone every time he was talking to me, and they would tell me that the manager was saying 'When is Cobb going to play?' It was true that they were going to sell me. This worked so well that Roth, thinking the public was strong for me, decided to keep me."

The following spring George Leidy became manager of the team, and then Cobb began to shine. He used to take the youngsters out on long rides and would picture to him the glories of the big league.

"He did it in such a glorious way," says Cobb, "that I was crazy for a chance. I told him that I believed I could make good if he would let me run bases to suit myself. He then told me that the bride was off and that I could start a base any time that I felt like it. Leidy advised me to take a chance at all times, and he always argued that the secret of baseball was in taking a chance on the bases. He was right, too. As a proof of that he took the San Antonio team two years ago and won the pennant with ease. The first day I was allowed to cut loose I stole four bases in a game at Columbia, S. C. After that it was easy."

For the rest of that season Cobb batted .350 and he was the sensation of the league. In the mean time Leidy tipped him off to the fact that Detroit had an option on him for \$75 and the old manager began to get him in shape for the big league. It seems that Cobb, the present Boston pitcher, was with Detroit and that he had been sent back to Augusta. The option on Cobb was transferred to Cobb, and that is the way that the Tigers got him. On that day he said to his father: "I want a bunch of ballplayers who afterward became famous. Cobbie, Clyde Engle, Nap Rucker, Ducky Holmes the younger, and Ty Cobb all worked on the club at the same time. Can you imagine what a live ball is, some money for you to live on?"



TY COBB GOING AFTER A HIGH ONE IN THE FIELD.

TY COBB AT BAT. NOTICE HOW HE GRIPS THE WAGON TONGUE.

they would be to a big league team now? "My main trouble at the start," says Cobb, "was that I didn't take my job on the Augusta team seriously. I will never forget the first time I was benched. I used to like my peanut taffy, and one day I went out to center field chewing on a big hunk of this candy. A fly ball was hit out to me, but I forgot to throw away the candy, and everything got so mixed up that I lost the ball and, incidentally, the game. For that I was benched, and I should have been."

The career of Ty Cobb after he hit the big league is pretty well known. He didn't get much of a chance the first season, but during the next spring Davy Jones was hurt and the Georgia youngster went in to take his place. From that day on Cobb has been a baseball sensation.

COBB HASN'T A SWELLED HEAD, INSTEAD HE IS TIMID.
For several months he had fought with the other players and at one time he was arrested for hitting a night watchman in Detroit. On top of that he became known to the fans as a player with a swelled head. Though a majority of fans to this day think that Cobb has the "big head," they cannot help but admire his ability. As a matter of fact, Cobb does not suffer from egotism. He is a mild-mannered youth and is rather timid in his address.

"The reason they thought I was swelled-headed," says Cobb, "was because I didn't understand human nature and I was afraid that people would see I was a good fellow with the other players so as to change their opinion. Instead of that having the desired effect, I was benched. I used to like my peanut taffy, and one day I went out to center field chewing on a big hunk of this candy. A fly ball was hit out to me, but I forgot to throw away the candy, and everything got so mixed up that I lost the ball and, incidentally, the game. For that I was benched, and I should have been."

The Phillies are in fourth place in the American League race, the Giants ahead of the Cubs and the Red Sox in third place. The Phillies are only two full games behind the Cubs now.

If Matty continues in the form shown yesterday, the Giants are likely to take the lead in the race for the pennant. The Phillies are only two full games behind the Cubs now.

Anything that looks like the Giants is too much for the Dodgers. With Bressler as shortstop and Evers as pitcher, the Phillies are in a bad way. The Phillies could do nothing but lose against the Red Sox.